



NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE

Humanities

DIVISION OF **EDUCATION**

ENDURING QUESTIONS

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

I. Eligibility

May individual institutions submit multiple applications?

Yes.

I am an adjunct who teaches part-time at two different colleges. Am I eligible to serve as a project director?

Yes. The applicant institution must, however, certify in the application that the course will be taught twice during the grant period at that institution.

May I develop an Enduring Questions course with a colleague who teaches at another institution?

No.

II. Course Design

Can an Enduring Questions course be team taught?

No. The course may be developed by a team, but during the grant period it must be taught separately at least twice by each faculty member involved in developing it. The different faculty members teaching the course must all use a common syllabus.

I plan to develop the course by myself. May I draw on the academic expertise of colleagues?

The grant provides an allowance for expert consultation with colleagues, but you must teach the course by yourself.

May I include and budget for a guest presenter for this project?

Yes, if the presentation takes place *outside* of class and directly supports an ancillary student activity such as visiting a museum.

Can I teach this course in an honors program, first- or second-year seminar, residential college, or capstone course?

Yes, provided that the course is open to students regardless of major or concentration.

Would an online course be competitive in this program?

Probably not, unless you can demonstrate strategies for creating and sustaining intellectual community and full engagement with extensive reading.

What is the difference between the core reading list and the bibliography?

The core reading list is the list of works that you are likely to assign to your students in the course. The bibliography is the list of works that you, as an individual or as members of a group, intend to study in order to prepare to teach the course.

How important is it that my course and study plan expand my scholarly range?

It is very important. Reviewers will take into account your previous research and teaching areas. If you are proposing a course that does not significantly expand those areas, your application will be less competitive. This is also true of applications from multiple faculty members.

Four of us intend to develop the course together. Does each instructor have to offer the course twice within the grant period?

Yes.

Are there examples of funded proposals from past NEH Enduring Questions competitions?

Yes. You will find some examples from prior competitions on the [program resource page](#).

III. Budget and Stipend

What is the stipend for?

The stipend supports the development of a new humanities course. It is intended to allow faculty to devote the time and energy necessary to create and plan the course.

May I reduce my stipend in order to allow more money in the budget for other costs?

No.

Does the stipend or another element within the budget pay for teaching the course?

No. This grant provides support for the *development* of the course.

My institution will include fringe benefits in the budget. Should fringe benefits be taken out of the stipend?

No. Fringe benefits are ordinarily calculated on top of the stipend, unless your institutional policy dictates otherwise.

After budgeting for the stipend, what can the remaining funds be used for?

The remaining funds may be used for any of the following items: books and other materials necessary for course development; funding for ancillary student activities (for example, attending plays, concerts, or museum exhibitions); expert advice for the development of the course's content; consulting services to develop a digital humanities component, such as a project website; costs incurred in publicizing and disseminating the course; indirect costs; and fringe benefits.

IV. Other Grant Opportunities

What other funding opportunities are available at NEH for research and for teaching in the humanities?

Applicants whose focus is primarily on individual scholarly research leading to publication should consult [Summer Stipends](#), [Fellowships](#), and other NEH [research grant programs](#).

Applicants interested in offering professional development opportunities should consult [Summer Seminars and Institutes for school teachers and for college and university teachers](#), [Landmarks of American History and Culture Workshops for school teachers](#), [NEH Bridging Cultures at Community Colleges](#), and other NEH [education grant programs](#).

Applicants whose projects focus primarily on using or studying the impact of digital technology should consult [Digital Humanities Start-Up Grants](#) and other NEH [digital humanities grant programs](#).

Applicants at eligible institutions may wish to consult Humanities Initiatives, for projects to strengthen humanities education and scholarship at [Hispanic-Serving Institutions](#), [Historically Black Colleges and Universities](#), and [Tribal Colleges and Universities](#).

Eligible applicants may also wish to consult Awards for Faculty, for individual research fellowships available to faculty at [Hispanic-Serving Institutions](#), [Historically Black Colleges and Universities](#), and [Tribal Colleges and Universities](#).

V. Application Assistance and Peer Review

What help is available for preparing the proposal?

Although NEH staff members do not read and comment on draft proposals in the Enduring Questions program, they will answer questions not covered in this document. Staff members may be reached at (202) 606-8380 and at enduringquestions@neh.gov.

How will my application be reviewed?

All applications will receive peer review. Using the evaluation criteria listed in Section V of the application guidelines, teachers and scholars in the humanities will convene in panels to read and rate the applications. NEH staff will compile a slate of recommended applications based on the panelists' comments and ratings. The [National Council on the Humanities](#) will review the recommendations and provide additional insights. All advice—from the panelists, staff, and National Council—will be sent to the NEH Chairman. By law, only the Chairman is empowered to make an award.

VI. Submitting your Application to Grants.gov

When is the deadline for submitting the application?

Applications for NEH Enduring Questions grants must be received by Grants.gov by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on September 12, 2013. Grants.gov will date- and time-stamp your application after it is fully uploaded. Applications submitted after that date will not be accepted.

NEH suggests that you submit your application no later than 5:00 p.m. (Eastern Time) on the day of the deadline. Doing so will leave you time to contact the Grants.gov help desk for support, should you encounter a technical problem of some kind. The Grants.gov help desk is available seven days a week, twenty-four hours a day (except on [federal holidays](#)), at 1-800-518-4726. You can also send an e-mail message to support@grants.gov.

How do I know if I have submitted my application successfully?

After you sign and submit the application, a confirmation page appears. This page includes the Grants.gov tracking number and other important information. Note the Grants.gov tracking number and save or print the confirmation page for your records.

You will then receive the following e-mail messages:

Grants.gov Submission Receipt;
Grants.gov Submission Validation Receipt; and
Grants.gov Grantor Agency Retrieval Receipt.

These messages are normally sent within twenty-four hours of the submission, but minor delays could occur when system usage is heavy.

If you do not receive these messages, or if the messages indicate that the application has been rejected, contact Grants.gov (www.grants.gov) at 1-800-518-GRANTS (4726) or support@grants.gov. Include the Grants.gov tracking number in correspondence regarding the application.